

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

B1A 1. (Original) A brush seal device in which splitting surfaces of a plurality of split-body parts are combined with one another and which is mounted to one of opposed component members so as to seal a gap between said component members, comprising:

a brush seal formed in a wall shape in the longitudinal direction of a fixture portion which is fixed at one end thereof;

said split-body parts which hold said brush seal and each of which has connecting portions that are split and that extend along said splitting surfaces,

wherein each of said splitting surfaces is composed of splitting direction-extending surfaces that extend in such a direction as to split said split-body parts and a longitudinal surface that extends in the longitudinal direction of said split-body parts and that forms a step interposed between said splitting direction-extending surfaces, and

wherein each of said splitting direction-extending surfaces has shutoff means for sealing a gap between said splitting direction-extending surfaces that are combined with each other.

2. (Currently Amended) The brush seal device according to claim 1, wherein said shutoff means has longitudinal contact surfaces formed in a ~~step-like~~ step structure of said splitting direction-extending surfaces and is constructed in a joining portion where said contact surfaces are joined with each other.

B/A 3. (Original) The brush seal device according to claim 2, wherein  
said shutoff means has a sealing plate made from a super-elastic alloy material on said  
contact surfaces.

4. (Original) The brush seal device according to claim 1, wherein  
said shutoff means is constructed of an elastic sealing plate that extends across and  
shuts off the gap between opposed faces of said splitting direction-extending surfaces.

5. (Currently Amended) The brush seal device according to claim 1, wherein  
said shutoff means is constructed of an elastically deformable ~~plate-type~~ plate sealing  
portion that is disposed between opposed faces of said splitting direction-extending  
surfaces so as to shut off the gap therebetween and that is joined with said opposed  
faces.

B/A 6. (New) A brush seal device in which splitting surfaces of a plurality of split-  
body parts are combined with one another and which is mounted to one of opposed  
component members so as to seal a gap between said component members,  
comprising:

a brush seal formed in a wall shape;

said split-body parts which hold said brush seal and each of which has  
connecting portions that are split and that extend along said splitting surfaces,

wherein each of said splitting surfaces has not only an axial step but also a radial  
step.

~~11/2~~ 7. (New) A brush seal device in which splitting surfaces of a plurality of split-body parts are combined with one another and which is mounted to one of opposed component members so as to seal a gap between said component members, comprising:

a brush seal formed in a wall shape;

said split-body parts which hold said brush seal and each of which has connecting portions that are split and that extend along said splitting surfaces,

wherein each of said splitting surfaces has an axial step and sealing means are disposed between opposed faces of splitting direction-extending surfaces of said splitting surfaces.